

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicants acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of the office action dated February 27, 2007 and completion of the personal interview of April 24, 2007. The Examiner's observations and suggestions are much appreciated and are summarized herein.

Claims 1 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0009562 to Heymann et al. Claims 2-12 and 14-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Heymann in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,100,122 to Blaschek et al. In accordance with the amendments and arguments set forth below, all claims are patentable over the art of record.

The subject application is directed to a system and method for tracking web-based sessions. A browser disposed on an associated data terminal and having at least one visible browser window associated therewith, wherein the browser is adapted for generating at least one interactive session with an associated web server. At least one session tracking application is associated with an interactive session and includes the functionality to monitor activity on the associated interactive session, determine whether monitored activity includes an unload event, and terminate the associated interactive session upon a determination of an unload event. The web server is then notified to close out the interactive session. In addition, an interactive data session is commenced between the browser window and the associated web server in a hidden browser window that is spawned upon determine of the unload event, wherein the hidden browser enables the termination.

In contrast to the forgoing, Heymann is directed to a browser session in which a server issues a close window instruction to an associated browser, which instruction remains unexecuted until a browser session is ended, such as when the instruction is unloaded. The subject system functions to spawn a hidden window which accomplishes termination of a session with a server in the event that all windows are closed or if a browser is closed. Placing such functionality in a hidden window allows for better isolation between the control and monitoring functions. As noted by the Examiner during the interview, this is patentably distinct over Heymann, alone, or as supplemented by Blaschke which is directed to controlling popup browser sessions.

Amendment to each of independent claims 1 and 13 has been made commensurate with the discussions and as summarized herein. By virtue of this amendment, all claims now include the limitation wherein an interactive data session is commenced between a browser window and an associated server, wherein a hidden window is spawned. The hidden window determines an unload event and enables termination.

In view of the forgoing amendments and comments, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance over the art of record. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/31260.

Date: May 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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